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|   |                               |                   |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION</b><br><b>(37 CFR 1.63)</b><br><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing      OR <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required) | <b>Attorney Docket Number</b> | VAC.482           |
|   | <b>First Named Inventor</b>   | HANNIGAN, Raymond |
|   | <b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b>      |                   |
|   | <b>Application Number</b>     | /                 |
|   | <b>Filing Date</b>            |                   |
|   | <b>Group Art Unit</b>         |                   |
|   | <b>Examiner Name</b>          |                   |

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

VACUUM ASSISTED CLOSURE SYSTEM WITH HEATING AND COOLING PROVISION

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which

☐ is attached hereto

OR

☒ was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) 31 March 2000 as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number PCT/US00/08759 and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

| Prior Foreign Application Number(s) | Country | Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY) | Priority Not Claimed     | Certified Copy Attached? |                          |
|-------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|                                     |         |                                  |                          | YES                      | NO                       |
|                                     | US      |                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                                     |         |                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                                     |         |                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                                     |         |                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:

(Page 1 of 2)

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐PTO/SB/02A (11-00)  
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0851-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**DECLARATION****ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)**  
**Supplemental Sheet**  
Page 1 of 2

|   |             |   |                   |
|---|-------------|---|-------------------|
| <b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b> |             | <input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor |                   |
| Given Name (first and middle [if any])            |             | Family Name or Surname  |                   |
| Charles I.  |             | Biltz, Jr.  |                   |
| Inventor's Signature                              |             | Date  |                   |
| San Antonio<br>Residence: City                    | TX<br>State | US<br>Country   | US<br>Citizenship |
| Mailing Address 333 Wild Rose                     |             |   |                   |
| Mailing Address                                   |             |   |                   |
| City San Antonio                                  | State TX    | ZIP 78209   | Country US        |
| <b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b> |             | <input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor |                   |
| Given Name (first and middle [if any])            |             | Family Name or Surname  |                   |
| Frank   |             | Dilazzaro   |                   |
| Inventor's Signature                              |             | Date  |                   |
| San Antonio<br>Residence: City                    | TX<br>State | US<br>Country   | US<br>Citizenship |
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| Mailing Address                                   |             |   |                   |
| City San Antonio                                  | State TX    | ZIP 78257   | Country US        |
| <b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b> |             | <input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor |                   |
| Given Name (first and middle [if any])            |             | Family Name or Surname  |                   |
| Christopher                                       |             | Fashek  |                   |
| Inventor's Signature                              |             | Date  |                   |
| San Antonio<br>Residence: City                    | TX<br>State | US<br>Country   | US<br>Citizenship |
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| Mailing Address                                   |             |   |                   |
| City San Antonio                                  | State TX    | ZIP 78257   | Country US        |

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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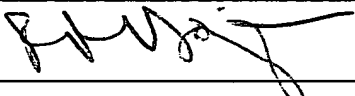
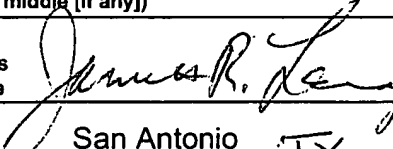
## DECLARATION

**ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)**  
**Supplemental Sheet**  
Page 2 of 2

|   |             |   |                   |
|---|-------------|---|-------------------|
| <b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b> |             | <input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor |                   |
| Given Name (first and middle [if any])            |             | Family Name or Surname  |                   |
| Wayne J.  |             | Schroeder   |                   |
| Inventor's Signature                              |             | Date  |                   |
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| <b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b> |             | <input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor |                   |
| Given Name (first and middle [if any])            |             | Family Name or Surname  |                   |
| Royce W.  |             | Johnson   |                   |
| Inventor's Signature <i>[Signature]</i>           |             | Date 25 SEP 01  |                   |
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| <b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b> |             | <input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor |                   |
| Given Name (first and middle [if any])            |             | Family Name or Surname  |                   |
|   |             |   |                   |
| Inventor's Signature                              |             | Date  |                   |
| Residence: City                                   | State       | Country   | Citizenship       |
| Mailing Address                                   |             |   |                   |
| Mailing Address                                   |             |   |                   |
| City  | State       | ZIP   | Country           |

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**DECLARATION Utility or Design Patent Application**

|   |  |  |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| Direct all correspondence to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |  | Customer Number or Bar Code Label <u>30159</u> |   | OR <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below |  |
| Name <u>Kinetic Concepts, Inc., Attn: Nadeem Bridi</u>  |  |  |   |  |  |
| Address <u>P.O. Box 659508</u>  |  |  |   |  |  |
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| Country <u>US</u>   |  | Telephone <u>210-255-4543</u>                  |   | Fax <u>210-255-4440</u>                                  |  |
| I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon. |  |  |   |  |  |
| NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR :  |  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor |  |  |
| Given Name (first and middle [if any]) <u>Raymond R.</u>  |  |  | Family Name or Surname <u>Hannigan</u>  |  |  |
| Inventor's Signature   |  |  | Date <u>9-25-01</u>   |  |  |
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| Citizenship <u>US</u>   |  |  |   |  |  |
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| Country <u>US</u>   |  |  |   |  |  |
| NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR:  |  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor |  |  |
| Given Name (first and middle [if any]) <u>James R.</u>  |  |  | Family Name or Surname <u>Leininger</u>                                       |  |  |
| Inventor's Signature   |  |  | Date <u>9/25/01</u>   |  |  |
| Residence: City <u>San Antonio</u>  |  | State <u>TX</u>                                |   | Country <u>US</u>  |  |
| Citizenship <u>US</u>   |  |  |   |  |  |
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| City <u>San Antonio</u>   |  | State <u>TX</u>                                |   | ZIP <u>78232</u>   |  |
| Country <u>US</u>   |  |  |   |  |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional inventors are being named on the <u>2</u> supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.   |  |  |   |  |  |